

The influence of degree of education in opinion about sexual relations with someone different than your marriage partner

Introduction:

This is a Data Analysis project for the Data Analysis and Statistical Inference course of Coursera. My main goal with this work, is to try to provide some evidence that **there is a relationship between the degree of education and the opinion about having sex with someone different than marriage partner**. I believe that studying the relationship between the degree of education and some behavioral or social aspects can be help to realize an approximation or distancing of some individual values, for example, in case of this study, betrayal. This work can be important for sociologists or psychologists, that want to have a better understanding of the human behavior associated with the education degree.

Data:

The data was collected via survey from 1972 until 2012. Until 1993, GSS was administered almost annually. The target sample size for the annual surveys was 1500; actual sample sizes ranged between 1372 (1990) and 1613 (1972). There were no GSSs in 1979, 1981 and 1992. Some questions in the survey, are not applicable to some respondents. For example, the question on marital happiness is only asked of currently married respondents. For this study, each case represents the respondent of the survey. The variables analyzed by this study are:

- DEGREE - a categorical variable that represent the respondent's highest degree of education
- XMARSEX - a categorical variable that represent the opinion of respondents about having sexual relations with someone than the marriage partner

This is an observational study, because the data was collected by a survey and there is no interference in this data. The population of interests is a person resident in United States. Based on in the idea that Generalization is based on in the combination of two things: Random Sample and Random Assignment, the study can be generalized to the population of USA, but it's not Causal. There are some interesting source of bias in the study. First, the respondents can have the option of not answer a question, it means there is a Non-Response source of bias. Beside that, there is a kind of Convenience Sample, because the survey is mainly focused on household, this type of respondent is more accessible than others, for example, a person that needs go to the work every day. There is no causality in these variables, because there is no Random Assignment associated with the study.

Exploratory data analysis:

The objective of this study is trying to understand the relationship of two categorical variables: DEGREE and XMARSEX. Before starting to study more in depth this relationship, we will take a look on each column separately. Let's investigate the data in XMARSEX column:

```
table(gss$xmarsex, useNA = "ifany")
```

```
##
##      Always wrong Almst Always wrg      Sometimes wrong Not wrong At All
##              25929              4581              2652              857
##              Other              <NA>
##              0              23042
```

At the first impression, seems that the majority of the population thinks that the "having sexual relation with someone different than you marriage partner" is Always Wrong. Just a little part of this population think that is Not Wrong at All. The XMARSEX is categorical variable. To explore how representative are the answers for each option, we will build a frequency table for her. Take a look at the frequency table:

```
table(gss$xmarsex, useNA = "ifany")/dim(gss)[1]
```

```
##
##      Always wrong Almst Always wrg      Sometimes wrong Not wrong At All
##              0.45441              0.08028              0.04648              0.01502
##              Other              <NA>
##              0.00000              0.40381
```

As we said before, about 45% of the population, believes that is Always Wrong having sexual relation with someone different of his spouse and just 1.5% believes that is not Wrong at all. It's important to note that this variable have a significant number of NA's responses, about 40%, that can be justified by the fact that GSS survey was not executed in

some years. To verify that the NAs answers is related with the years that GSS survey was not executed, we can group the responses by years:

```
table(gss$xmarsex, gss$year, useNA = "ifany")
```

```
##
##
##      1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1980 1982 1983 1984
## Always Wrong      0 1037 1082      0 1013 1103      0 1018 1333      0 1023
## Almst Always wrg      0 220 173      0 230 206      0 230 237      0 264
## Sometimes Wrong      0 173 169      0 169 153      0 143 194      0 129
## Not Wrong At All      0 61 36      0 63 48      0 53 57      0 33
## Other      0      0      0      0      0      0      0      0      0      0
## <NA>      1613 13 24 1490 24 20 1532 24 39 1599 24
##
##      1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1993 1994 1996 1998
## Always Wrong     1132      0 1308 764 797 709 738 815 1546 1471 1466
## Almst Always wrg     207      0 263 125 131 115 132 152 248 285 231
## Sometimes Wrong     130      0 165 54 74 63 63 60 130 98 107
## Not Wrong At All      43      0 48 20 17 13 31 26 46 35 44
## Other      0      0      0      0      0      0      0      0      0      0
## <NA>      22 1470 35 518 518 472 553 553 1022 1015 984
##
##      2000 2002 2004 2006 2008 2010 2012
## Always Wrong     1448 725 717 1582 1088 988 1026
## Almst Always wrg     198 124 107 236 144 168 155
## Sometimes Wrong     130 39 44 121 76 81 87
## Not Wrong At All      47 19 19 36 20 26 16
## Other      0      0      0      0      0      0      0
## <NA>      994 1858 1925 2535 695 781 690
```

There were no GSSs in 1979, 1981 and 1992. As we can see in the table, in these years we don't have information about the NAs, because the data were not inserted in this dataset. In this case, the higher number of NAs is not related with the years that GSS was not executed. A important information is that some questions may not exist in all years. Seems that the high number of NA is due to the fact that a question may not have been taken in that year. For example in 1972, 1978, 1983 and 1986 the NAs answer is higher, probably this question was not taken in these years. This is an important factor for high number of NA answers.

Now, lets do the same analysis to DEGREE variable. First, here a simple table of DEGREE variable data:

```
table(gss$degree, useNA = "ifany")
```

```
##
## Lt High School      High School Junior College      Bachelor      Graduate
##      11822      29287      3070      8002      3870
##      <NA>
##      1010
```

At the first impression, we can note that the degree of education of majority of the population is concentrated between Lt High School and High School Junior. Another important thing to note is the number of NAs responses, 1010. This number is much smaller than the XMARSEX, but it's still loud. Take a look at the frequency table for DEGREE variable.

```
table(gss$degree, useNA = "ifany")/dim(gss)[1]
```

```
##
## Lt High School      High School Junior College      Bachelor      Graduate
##      0.20718      0.51326      0.05380      0.14024      0.06782
##      <NA>
##      0.01770
```

Looking the data, we can see that the NA values represents about 1.7% of the total. Is much smaller than the 40% of the NAs in the XMARSEX variable. Now lets to analyze the DEGREE answers by year:

```
table(gss$degree, gss$year, useNA = "ifany")
```

```
##
##      1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1980 1982 1983 1984
## Lt High School 587 510 479 492 482 488 431 407 539 385 374
## High School 762 720 722 732 728 741 804 745 938 835 764
## Junior College 17 20 25 33 24 34 42 45 74 61 54
## Bachelor 124 132 139 140 152 139 151 158 165 202 175
## Graduate 52 65 73 50 61 74 62 71 84 80 77
## <NA> 71 57 46 43 52 54 42 42 60 36 29
##
##      1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1993 1994 1996 1998
## Lt High School 387 376 441 335 315 268 280 267 478 425 409
## High School 795 750 934 785 814 726 825 840 1586 1567 1500
## Junior College 60 48 77 65 96 75 73 97 176 187 209
## Bachelor 175 192 238 179 189 197 224 253 497 471 478
## Graduate 90 80 87 89 95 87 81 118 216 224 205
## <NA> 27 24 42 28 28 19 34 31 39 30 31
##
##      2000 2002 2004 2006 2008 2010 2012
## Lt High School 419 386 347 659 283 293 280
## High School 1501 1485 1435 2273 1003 1001 976
## Junior College 206 202 224 377 173 145 151
## Bachelor 435 443 507 763 355 375 354
## Graduate 218 230 281 403 194 218 205
## <NA> 38 19 18 35 15 12 8
```

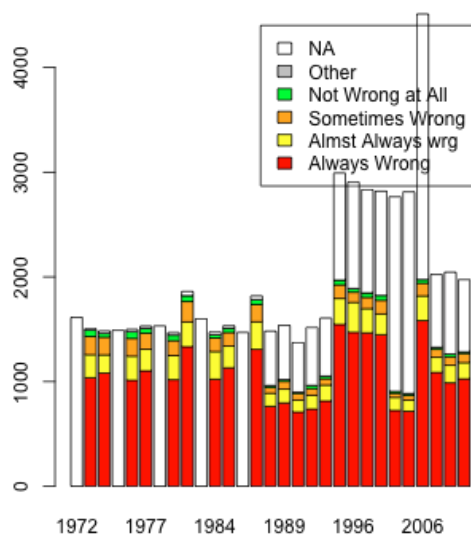
It seems that the DEGREE variable was answered in all years. It can explain why the NAs values are much smaller then in XMARSEX. Now lets take a look in the relationship of the these two variables:

```
table(gss$degree, gss$xmarsex)
```

```
##
##      Always wrong Almst Always wrg Sometimes wrong
## Lt High School      5888      592      498
## High School      13588      2224      1281
## Junior College      1362      242      117
## Bachelor      3191      920      427
## Graduate      1369      563      289
##
##      Not wrong At All Other
## Lt High School      208      0
## High School      398      0
## Junior College      52      0
## Bachelor      103      0
## Graduate      85      0
```

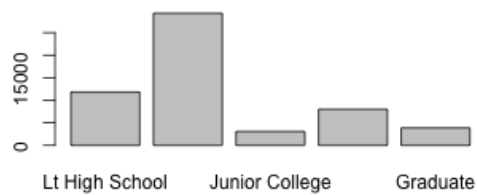
It seems that the majority of the population, independent of the degree, think that is Always Wrong having sexual relations with someone different than your marriage partner. Here, some visualizations to facilitate the understanding of the data: The distribution of XMARSEX answers by year:

```
barplot(table(gss$xmarsex, gss$year, useNA = "ifany"), col = c("red",
"yellow",
"orange", "green", "grey", "white"), legend = c("Always wrong", "Almst
Always wrg",
"Sometimes wrong", "Not wrong at All", "Other", "NA"))
```

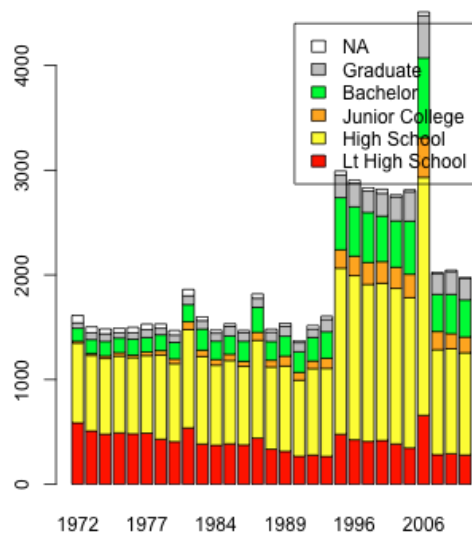


Some visualizations of DEGREE Variable:

```
plot(gss$degree)
```

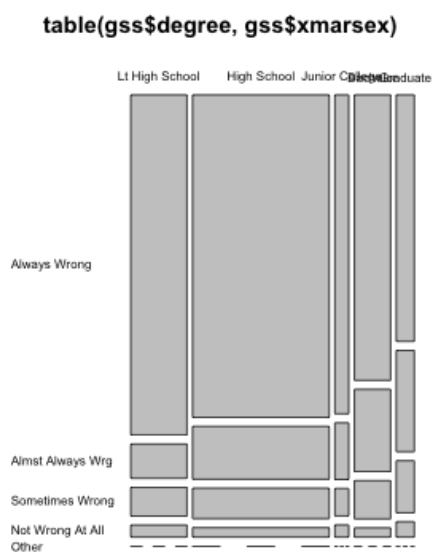


```
barplot(table(gss$degree, gss$year, useNA = "ifany"), col = c("red", "yellow",  
"orange", "green", "grey", "white"), legend = c("Lt High School", "High  
school",  
"Junior College", "Bachelor", "Graduate", "NA"))
```



About the relationship between the two variables:

```
mosaicplot(table(gss$degree, gss$xmarsex), las = 1)
```



In the mosaic plot visualization, you can see that the distribution for the Always Wrong option is decreasing as the level of education increases. Despite having fewer responses, the Not Wrong At All option has greater number of responses to the highest degree of education.

Inference:

I want to check with my study if the degree of education influences the opinion about having sexual relations with someone different than your marriage partner. For verify this, I will use the **chi-square independent test**. We choose this method because we have 2 categorical variables with more then 2 levels. The first thing we need to do is build a contingency table for verify the relationship between the variables DEGREE and XMARSEX.

```
addmargins(table(gss$xmarsex, gss$degree))
```

```
##
##          Lt High School High School Junior College Bachelor
## Always Wrong          5888          13588          1362          3191
## Almst Always wrg          592          2224          242          920
## Sometimes Wrong          498          1281          117          427
## Not Wrong At All          208          398           52          103
## Other                    0           0           0           0
## Sum                    7186          17491          1773          4641
##
##          Graduate Sum
## Always Wrong          1369 25398
## Almst Always wrg          563 4541
## Sometimes Wrong          289 2612
## Not Wrong At All          85 846
## Other                    0 0
## Sum                    2306 33397
```

The Hypotheses for this study are: **H0 (nothing going on):** XMARSEX and DEGREE of education are **independent**. The opinion about having sexual relations with someone different than your marriage partner is not related with degree of education. **H1(something going on):** XMARSEX and DEGREE of education are **dependent**. The opinion about having sexual relations with someone different than your marriage partner is related with degree of education. We need to check the conditions for the chi-squared test:

1) Independence:

- random sample/assignment ? Ok
- if sample without replacement, $n < 10\%$ of population? Ok
- each case only contributes to one cell in the table? Ok

2) Sample size: Each particular scenario (i.e cell) must have at least 5 expected cases? Ok

We do not execute this calculus by hand and we will use the Inference function in R to execute the chi-squared test for us. First, take a look again on the relationship of XMARSEX and DEGREE:

```
table(gss$xmarsex, gss$degree)
```

```
##
##          Lt High School High School Junior College Bachelor
## Always Wrong          5888          13588          1362          3191
## Almst Always wrg          592          2224          242          920
## Sometimes Wrong          498          1281          117          427
## Not Wrong At All          208          398           52          103
## Other                    0           0           0           0
##
##          Graduate
## Always Wrong          1369
## Almst Always wrg          563
## Sometimes Wrong          289
## Not Wrong At All          85
## Other                    0
```

Observe the row correspondent to the **Other** option for XMARSEX. There is no value for any column, just zero. To execute the chi-squared test correctly we need to remove all the 0 values for variables (see appendix).

Now, we are ready to use the inference function. First, we need to load the inference function:

```
load(url("http://s3.amazonaws.com/assets.datacamp.com/course/dasi/inference.Rdata"))
```

Now we will execute the function, for chi-squared independent test for a dropped NA's dataset:

```
inference(gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex_without_NA_columns$xmarsex,
gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex_without_NA_columns$degree,
  est = "proportion", type = "ht", method = "theoretical", alternative =
"greater",
  inf_lines = FALSE)
```

```
## Error: object 'gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex_without_NA_columns' not found
```

We have a p-value pretty small, $p\text{-value} < 2.2e-16$.

Conclusion:

We can conclude with this study, based on the chi-squared independence test and the value of p-value: **There is a relationship between the degrees of education and the opinion about having sexual relations with other than your marriage partner.** The p-value is pretty small, what means that we can reject the null hypothesis in favor of the alternative hypothesis.

References

- General Social Survey dataset, *Smith, Tom W., Michael Hout, and Peter V. Marsden. General Social Survey, 1972-2012 [Cumulative File]*. This is a sociological survey used to collect data on demographic characteristics and attitudes of residents of the United States. The dataset can be found online at: http://bit.ly/dasi_gss_data. The dataset cookbook can be found here: <https://d396qusza40orc.cloudfront.net/statistics%2Fproject%2Fgss1.html#educ>

Appendix

XMARSEX page:

```
head(gss$xmarsex, 200L)
```

```
##      [1] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##      [15] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##      [29] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##      [43] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##      [57] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##      [71] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##      [85] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##      [99] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##     [113] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##     [127] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##     [141] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##     [155] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##     [169] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##     [183] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
##     [197] <NA> <NA> <NA> <NA>
## 5 Levels: Always Wrong Almst Always wrg ... Other
```

```
tail(gss$xmarsex, 200L)
```

```

## [1] <NA> Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [5] <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [9] Always Wrong Sometimes Wrong Always Wrong <NA>
## [13] Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA>
## [17] Sometimes Wrong <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [21] Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA> Almst Always wrg
## [25] <NA> Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [29] Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong <NA>
## [33] Almst Always wrg <NA> Always Wrong <NA>
## [37] Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [41] <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA>
## [45] Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [49] Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [53] Always Wrong Not Wrong At All Always Wrong <NA>
## [57] Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [61] Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong Almst Always wrg
## [65] <NA> Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [69] <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA>
## [73] Always Wrong Always Wrong Almst Always wrg <NA>
## [77] Always Wrong <NA> Sometimes Wrong Always Wrong
## [81] <NA> Almst Always wrg Always Wrong <NA>
## [85] Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong <NA>
## [89] <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [93] Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [97] <NA> Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [101] <NA> <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [105] Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [109] <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [113] <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [117] Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [121] Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA>
## [125] Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [129] Always Wrong Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA>
## [133] <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA>
## [137] Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [141] <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA>
## [145] Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong
## [149] <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA>
## [153] Always Wrong <NA> <NA> Sometimes Wrong
## [157] <NA> Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA>
## [161] Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [165] Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong <NA>
## [169] Sometimes Wrong Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [173] <NA> Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [177] <NA> Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## [181] <NA> Always Wrong <NA> Almst Always wrg
## [185] Almst Always wrg Almst Always wrg Always Wrong <NA>
## [189] Almst Always wrg Always Wrong <NA> Sometimes Wrong
## [193] <NA> <NA> Always Wrong <NA>
## [197] Always Wrong Always Wrong <NA> Always Wrong
## 5 Levels: Always Wrong Almst Always wrg ... Other

```

DEGREE page:

```
head(gss$degree, 200L)
```



```
## [1] Bachelor Lt High School High School Bachelor
## [5] High School High School High School Bachelor
## [9] High School High School High School Lt High School
## [13] Lt High School Lt High School Lt High School High School
## [17] High School Lt High School Bachelor High School
## [21] High School High School High School High School
## [25] Bachelor High School High School High School
## [29] High School Lt High School Lt High School High School
## [33] Bachelor Lt High School High School High School
## [37] High School Lt High School Lt High School High School
## [41] Lt High School High School Lt High School Lt High School
## [45] Lt High School High School High School High School
## [49] Lt High School Lt High School Lt High School High School
## [53] Lt High School High School Lt High School High School
## [57] High School High School High School Lt High School
## [61] High School Lt High School High School Lt High School
## [65] High School Lt High School High School High School
## [69] High School Bachelor <NA> High School
## [73] Lt High School Lt High School High School Bachelor
## [77] Lt High School Lt High School High School High School
## [81] <NA> High School High School High School
## [85] High School Bachelor Graduate Graduate
## [89] Bachelor High School Bachelor High School
## [93] High School High School Bachelor High School
## [97] High School High School High School High School
## [101] Lt High School High School High School High School
## [105] High School Lt High School High School High School
## [109] Bachelor High School Lt High School High School
## [113] Lt High School Lt High School High School High School
## [117] Lt High School Lt High School Lt High School High School
## [121] Lt High School Lt High School Lt High School Lt High School
## [125] Lt High School Lt High School Bachelor High School
## [129] Lt High School High School Lt High School High School
## [133] High School Lt High School Lt High School Lt High School
## [137] High School Lt High School Lt High School High School
## [141] High School High School High School Lt High School
## [145] Lt High School Bachelor High School Lt High School
## [149] Lt High School High School High School High School
## [153] Lt High School Lt High School High School High School
## [157] Lt High School High School High School Lt High School
## [161] High School Lt High School Lt High School Lt High School
## [165] Graduate Bachelor Bachelor High School
## [169] High School High School Lt High School High School
## [173] Lt High School Lt High School Graduate Bachelor
## [177] High School Lt High School Bachelor High School
## [181] Lt High School High School Lt High School Lt High School
## [185] Lt High School Lt High School Lt High School High School
## [189] Bachelor Graduate High School Graduate
## [193] Bachelor High School Lt High School High School
## [197] Lt High School High School High School High School
## Levels: Lt High School High School Junior College Bachelor Graduate
```

```
tail(gss$degree, 200L)
```

```
## [1] High School High School High School High School
## [5] High School High School High School High School
## [9] Bachelor High School High School Bachelor
## [13] High School Bachelor High School High School
## [17] Bachelor Lt High School Bachelor Bachelor
## [21] High School Lt High School High School High School
## [25] Graduate Bachelor High School High School
## [29] Bachelor High School Lt High School High School
## [33] Junior College Lt High School High School High School
## [37] Lt High School High School High School High School
## [41] High School Lt High School High School Lt High School
## [45] High School High School High School High School
## [49] High School High School Bachelor High School
## [53] High School Graduate High School High School
## [57] High School Bachelor Graduate High School
## [61] High School High School Junior College High School
## [65] High School High School Bachelor Bachelor
## [69] High School High School Graduate High School
## [73] Bachelor High School High School Bachelor
## [77] High School Junior College High School Bachelor
## [81] High School High School High School Bachelor
## [85] Graduate High School Junior College High School
## [89] Lt High School Lt High School High School Graduate
## [93] High School Bachelor Lt High School Junior College
## [97] Junior College <NA> High School High School
## [101] Junior College High School High School Graduate
## [105] High School High School Bachelor Lt High School
## [109] High School Lt High School Bachelor Lt High School
## [113] Graduate Lt High School High School High School
## [117] High School High School High School High School
## [121] High School Lt High School Junior College High School
## [125] High School Lt High School High School High School
## [129] Lt High School Lt High School High School High School
## [133] Bachelor High School High School Lt High School
## [137] High School High School Lt High School High School
## [141] Lt High School Lt High School Lt High School Lt High School
## [145] High School High School High School High School
## [149] Bachelor Lt High School High School Junior College
## [153] High School High School Lt High School High School
## [157] Lt High School <NA> Graduate High School
## [161] Junior College High School Graduate Bachelor
## [165] Lt High School Junior College High School High School
## [169] High School High School High School High School
## [173] High School High School High School Bachelor
## [177] Bachelor Bachelor Junior College Junior College
## [181] Junior College High School Bachelor Graduate
## [185] Graduate Bachelor High School High School
## [189] High School High School Graduate Lt High School
## [193] Lt High School Lt High School Lt High School Bachelor
## [197] High School High School High School High School
## Levels: Lt High School High School Junior College Bachelor Graduate
```

Steps to remove all the 0 values for variables

```
# just columns of interest, gss$degree and gss$xmarsex
gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex <- gss[c(12, 94)]

# remove rows with NAs in either column
gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex_without_NA_columns <-
gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex[!is.na(gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex[,
  1]) & !is.na(gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex[, 2]), ]

# droplevels
gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex_without_NA_columns <-
droplevels(gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex_without_NA_columns)

# observe that there is no NA values anymore
table(gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex_without_NA_columns$xmarsex,
gss_with_degree_and_xmarsex_without_NA_columns$degree)
```

```
##
##          Lt High School High School Junior College Bachelor
## Always Wrong          5888          13588          1362          3191
## Almst Always wrng          592          2224          242          920
## Sometimes Wrong          498          1281          117          427
## Not Wrong At All          208          398          52          103
##
##          Graduate
## Always Wrong          1369
## Almst Always wrng          563
## Sometimes Wrong          289
## Not Wrong At All          85
```